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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 19, 2007

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON CO. PAYS \$630,000 TO RESOLVE THE UNITED STATES' CLAIMS CONCERNING THREE FOREST FIRES

FRESNO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that Southern California Edison Co. ("SCE") has paid a total of \$630,000, in two separate settlements, to resolve the United States' civil claims arising out of three forest fires on National Forest System lands. These settlements are the result of extensive investigations by the Forest Service. SCE paid \$430,000 to resolve claims brought by the government to recover damages arising out of the 2000 Musick forest fire and the 2006 Mason forest fire, both of which occurred in the Sierra National Forest. SCE separately paid \$200,000 to resolve the United States' claims arising out of the 1996 Grand forest fire in the area of the Los Padres National Forest.

"Electricity generation is a long-standing activity in the National Forests. It is incumbent upon companies operating within the National Forests, such as SCE, to take the necessary steps to reduce the risk of causing destructive wildfires. The United States will hold operators responsible when they cause the government to incur fire suppression costs and resource damages to National Forest System lands," stated United States Attorney Scott.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk Sherriff, who handled the cases, the United States alleged that SCE's power lines ignited these fires and that SCE was liable for the United States' resulting

fire suppression costs and resource damages. The settlement in the Musick fire case resolves a civil lawsuit brought by the United States against SCE in that case.

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